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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,027	03/02/2004	John A. Giordano	48508-00014	9737
23767	7590	10/17/2006	EXAMINER	
PRESTON GATES ELLIS & ROUVELAS MEEDS LLP 1735 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW, SUITE 500 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			CHOI, FRANK I	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1616

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER

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Commissioner for Patents**NOTICE OF NON-RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT**

Newly submitted claims 232, 233 are directed to an invention that is unrelated to the prior claims for the following reasons: The inventions are not capable of use together as the inventions are mutually exclusive in that the prior claims required the presence of calcium as an active mineral and did not exclude other active ingredients, whereas the present claims exclude calcium as an active mineral as well as other active ingredients other than the listed vitamins and minerals. Further, since at the minimum, the prior claims also required calcium, the effect of calcium in the body present in the prior claims would not be present in the present claims because calcium as an active mineral is not contained in the present claims; thus, the inventions have different designs, modes of operation and effects. Since the applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP Sections 802.01, 806.06 and 821.03. The amendment filed on 9/21/2006 canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03).

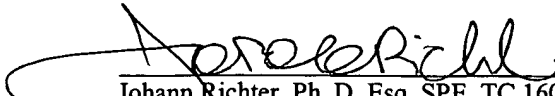
Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a bona fide attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

A facsimile center has been established in Technology Center 1600. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:45 AM to 4:45 PM. The telecopier number for accessing the facsimile machine is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frank Choi whose telephone number is (571)272-0610. Examiner maintains a compressed schedule and may be reached Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 6:00 am – 4:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Dr. Johann Richter, can be reached at (571)272-0646. Additionally, Technology Center 1600's Receptionist and Customer Service can be reached at (571) 272-1600. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frank Choi, Patent Examiner, TC 1600, October 6, 2006


Johann Richter, Ph. D. Esq., SPE, TC 1600